(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the expansion of the ongoing World Bank assisted Eighth India Population Project (IPP-VIII) currently under implementation in the cities of Bangalore, Calcutta, Delhi and Hyderabad to 94 additional cities/ towns in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and West Bengal. Besides, Uttar Pradesh and Tamilnadu have been covered for improvement of the logistic facilities. The Project cost has also been revised from Rs. 223.37 crores to Rs. 422.01 crores and the Project period extended from 6.8.1998 to 30th June, 2001. While Bihar is not covered by this project, it has been extended to 10 additional cities in West Bengal, namely, Siliguri, Durgapur, Bardhman, Kharagpur, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Balurghat, Raiganj, English Bazar and Alipur Duar in addition to Calcutta at a total cost of Rs. 133.80.

(c) to (e) As the Eighth India Population Project aims at improving the health and family welfare status of urban slums population in selected Cities, no tribal areas have been included under this Project. However, in tribal areas, relaxed norms are being followed for setting up rural health infrastructural facilities. A Community Health Centre, a Primary Health Centre and a sub-centre are opened in tribal areas for a propulation of 80,000, 20,000 and 30,000 as against 1,20,000, 3,000 and 5,000 respectively in other areas. The Government is also encouraging NGO involvement in reaching health care to the tribal population.

International congress on "Ayurveda-2000'

3701. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Congress, "Ayurveda 2000' was held in Chennai in the last week of January;

(b) if so, the achievements of the Congress; and

(c) how Government propose to promote Ayurveda, a system of Indian medicine, so that it reaches the poor and the needy persons, even in remote villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Sowparnika Ayurvedic Foundation for Research. Health & Education in collaboration with other institutes organised an International Conference on Ayurveda, 2000 at Chennai.

(b) A number of recommendations were made in the Congress. Some of the achievements *interalia* include awareness building about the advantages of Ayurveda, the need for standardizing the drugs and also a recognition of the present limitations of the sector and what needs to be done for its development.

(c) Financial assistance is provided to the NGOs to create awareness about strengthening of ISM & H through Workshop. Training, Health Melas and Community meetings under Information. Education and Communication Schemes of the Deptt. Efforts are also being made so that the ISM & H Practitioner are utilized by the States in Primary Health Centres, including Family Welfare Programme.

Tuberculosis Eradication

3702. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of people estimated to be suffering from active tuberculosis which is highly infectious;

(b) the number of new cases added thereto every year;

(c) the details of mortality rate in each State/Union Territory in India;

(d) the steps being taken to reduce the mortality rate; and

(e) how much financial assistance is being taken from the World Bank to eradicate this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) It is estimated that there are between 3 million and 3.5 million highly infectious sputum positive cases.

(b) It is estimated that about 22 lakh TB cases occur every year of which 10 lakhs are estimated to be highly infectious.

(c) Deaths are not reported under the National TB Control Programme. It is estimated that nearly 5 lakh people die of tuberculosis every year in the country.

(d) To achieve a cure rate of at least 85%, Revised National TB Control

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.